

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

**An apparatus for and method of improving the efficiency of service**

5 request/response activity requiring security functions. A security facility, such as Security  
Support Provider Interface is embedded in a communication class library which controls  
the communication between client and server applications. A context token is associated  
with the service request which specifies the security functions to be provided in honoring  
that particular request without any particular attention by either client or server  
10 application, as the security functions are exclusively concerned with the communication  
process rather than the service request/response activity.